

Decision Memo
North Fork Special Services District well
Pleasant Grove Ranger District, Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest
Utah County, Utah
March 2020

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This document details my decision regarding the proposal from the North Fork Special Service District (NFSSD) to construct a culinary water well and related piping on NFS lands.

Project number in the Planning, Appeals, and Litigation System database: 57711

General Location: Project is located at the Theater In The Pines Group Campground.

2.0 PROPOSED ACTION

To construct a water well with a submerged pump, a meter, a control box, buried power lines, and subsurface piping.

NFSSD proposes to construct a water well with a submerged pump, a meter, a control box, buried power lines, and subsurface piping. The well head is contained in a steel 10" pipe that extends 2' above ground level and capped. A meter with a 12" cover will be next to the pipe and installed flush with the ground. A locked control box will be mounted near SR 92 (see diagram). Power for the pump and 6" pipe for connection to the existing water collection facility will be installed below ground. (The well could be placed in an underground vault at the requested location. However, placement in a vault will require clearing a larger area to accommodate the 10' x 10' dimensions of the vault. The vault cover could be buried below grade with access provided by a manhole sized cover, but major maintenance like pump replacement would require removal of the cover and subsequent reforestation. Also, a vault will require a surface air vent consisting of a 4" inverted "J" shaped pipe that extends 24-30" above ground. Either the 10" well pipe or vent pipe can be camouflaged, but the visual impact will be similar while the vault has both a higher cost and is more disruptive to the landscape during installation and future maintenance).

The NFSSD currently maintains a water transmission line adjacent to the proposed well site. This water transmission line diverts water from two springs located within the Mt. Timpanogos Wilderness and takes overflow from the Forest Service Mt. Timpanogos Campground water system.

2.1 Design Criteria

Engineering Criteria

1. Submit detailed design drawings that include site plan, architectural, structural, plumbing, mechanical, and electrical requirements. Submit design package at 90% complete for review. Once Forest Service comments have been addressed, submit final plans, calculations and reports. Plans should include:
 - a. Site plan – location of proposed and existing structures and constructed features, utilities, related roads and parking areas, accessible routes to/from the proposed structures.

- b. Architectural Plans - dimensioned plans with elevations, and any other accessible features. Include materials and colors.
 - c. Electrical Plans – Include location of electrical service on the site plan, electrical plan for building with building service panel identified. Include grounding details.
 - d. Accessibility – information should include all required elements to adequately address and comply with applicable accessibility requirements (2004 ADA/ABA).
- 2. The drawings must be stamped by the Professional Engineer and Architect responsible for the design, and must comply with all current building codes (IBC, IPC, IMC, NEC, etc.), standard, and other safety requirements.
 - 3. Submit Structural Calculations for the structure (building, tower, etc.) that includes loads required by IBC, ASCE-7 and TIA-222-G (vertical and lateral). Structural calculations must be stamped by the structural engineer responsible for the design.
 - 4. Submit electrical load calculations showing service is adequate for new building and provide load calculation for the new building. Load calculation must be stamped by the electrical engineer or in some cases state allows a licensed electrician to sign.
 - 5. Project for Water and/or Wastewater Systems Improvements –
 - a. Submit Plans and Specifications stamped & signed by the licensed professional engineer responsible for the design.
 - b. Provide Engineering Reports to include requirements called for in the State regulations.
 - c. For Water Systems – provide design information and calculations to include water source capacity, types water use (domestic, irrigation, fire, etc.), for average daily demands, maximum daily and hourly demand, needed fire flows, sizing of storage tanks, etc.
 - d. Provide hydraulic analysis of the water system for static and dynamic conditions. Dynamic condition to include peak flow.
 - e. Design should meet standards and requirement of the State, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and Forest Service.
 - f. If required, obtain the appropriate permits from the State and/or Local Health Department. Provide copy of permit or documentation of application for permit.
 - g. Clearly identify existing utilities within the project area.
 - 6. Schedule - Indicate approximate starting date for construction of the improvement(s) and/or related infrastructure. Provide a construction schedule for all elements that will be built.

Archaeology & Heritage Resources

- 1. Due to the high probability for sub-surface artifacts, a cultural resource monitor must be present for any excavation.
- 2. The construction contractor must be familiar with and follow the attached *Protocol for inadvertent effects*.

Invasive weeds

1. All equipment required to be washed and inspected by the Forest Service before going on project, to remove all plant parts, dirt, and material that may carry noxious weed seeds.
2. Avoid or minimize all types of travel, including driving equipment, vehicles, ATVs, UTV, walking etc., through or parking in existing noxious weed-infested areas.
3. Monitoring and treatment of invasive weeds located is required for a minimum of three years after project completion, with top priority for treatment being any new invading weed species. Treat new invaders early to prevent them from setting seed, and establishing a soil seed bank.
4. Also monitor and treat known infestation locations as required, (when/if weeds reemerge and/or if they have spread from original known location.
5. Gravel or borrow material source sites with noxious weed species present should not be used unless effective treatment or other mitigation measures are implemented.
6. A reseeding mix will be provided by the Forest Service Botanist.

Hydrology

1. Confirm transfer of water rights from unused spring to proposed well site. Provide updated water right information from State of Utah Division of Water Rights.

3.0 DECISION AND RATIONALE

My decision is to authorize the proposed action along with the required design criteria as described in section 2, above.

Based on environmental analysis and input from an interdisciplinary team of Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest resource specialists, I have determined that this action may be categorically excluded from documentation in an environmental assessment or an environmental impact statement. In particular, this action falls under *36 CFR 220.6(e)(3) Approval, modification, or continuation of minor special uses of NFS lands that require less than 5 contiguous acres of land.*

We consider resource conditions when determining whether extraordinary circumstances related to the proposed action exist that warrant further analysis and documentation in an environmental assessment or an environmental impact statement. As per Chapter 30, Section 31.2 of Forest Service Handbook 1909.15, the mere presences of one or more of these resource conditions does not preclude use of a categorical exclusion. I have concluded that there are no extraordinary circumstances related to the decision that may result in a significant individual or cumulative environmental effect.

4.0 SCOPING

The project was scoped through and interdisciplinary team of Forest resource specialists and listed on the Schedule of Proposed Actions.

5.0 FOREST PLAN AND LEGAL CONSISTENCY

The proposed project is consistent with the management prescription for the area, 4.5 Developed Recreation, *Recreation and non-recreation development are allowed.*

I find that the proposed action is fully consistent with the 2003 Uinta National Forest Plan, as well as in compliance with all applicable laws, regulations, and policies. Specifically; the National Forest Management Act, National Environmental Policy Act, Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended; Clean Water Act; Congressional designated areas such as wilderness, wilderness study areas, or National Recreation Areas; Inventoried Roadless Areas; Research Natural Areas; Native American religious or cultural sites, archaeological sites, or historical properties or areas; Migratory Bird Treaty Act; Environmental Justice (Executive Order 12898).

6.0 OBJECTION OPPORTUNITIES AND IMPLEMENTATION

My decision is not subject to administrative appeal or objection, as outlined in the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2014 and the Agricultural Act of 2014. This decision may be implemented immediately.

7.0 CONTACT PERSON

For additional information about the project, contact Charles Rosier, at 801-999-2159 or Charles.rosier@usda.gov



DAVID C. WITTEKIEND
Forest Supervisor

3/3/2020
Date

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